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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Technology Center 2100

Inventor(s): James M. Thommes

Serial No.: 09/827,440

Filing Date: April 6, 2001

Grp Art Unit: 2182

Examiner: Shaw, C.

Docket No.: ITW 7188.62

For: Method And Apparatus For Receiving A Universal Input Voltage
In A Welding Power Source

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AUG 1 2003
TECHNOL
CEN 2100CERTIFICATION FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(37 CFR 1.97(e))

Note:

A certification must state either: "(1) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement, or (2) that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certificate after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement." 37 CFR 1.97(e).

Note:

"Section 1.97(e) makes it clear that a certification could contain either of two statements. One statement is that each item of information in an information disclosure statement was cited in a search report from a patent office outside the U.S. not more than three months prior to the filing date of the statement. Under this certification, it would not matter whether any individual with a duty actually knew about any of the information cited before receiving the search report. In the alternative, the certification could state that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual having a duty to disclose more than three months prior to the filing of the statement." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 13. Thus: "If an item of information is submitted within three months of being cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the certification can be properly made regardless of any individual's previous knowledge of the information." Id., 1135 O.G. at 19.

Note:

"The certification can be based on present, good faith knowledge about when information became known without a search of files being made." Thus, for example, the certification of 1.97(e) does not preclude the use of the certification in an application by corporations whose practitioners have over the years reviewed thousands of patents and technical publications, even though they are unaware of the relevance of any one thereof to the application. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-15, at 19.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is,
on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal
Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 23, 2003
(Date)

George Corrigan

- Note: A copy of the foreign search report need not be submitted with the certification. Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 40).
- Note: "The phrase 'after making reasonable inquiry' makes it clear that the individual making the certification has a duty to make reasonable inquiry regarding the facts that are being certified. The certification can be made by a registered practitioner who represents a foreign client and who relies on statements made by the foreign client as to the date the information first became known. A registered practitioner who receives information from a client without being informed whether the information was known for more than three months, however, cannot make the certification without making reasonable inquiry. For example, if an inventor gave a publication to the attorney prosecuting an application with the intent that it be cited to the Office, the attorney should inquire as to when that inventor became aware of the publication and should not submit a certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2) to the Office until a satisfactory response is received. The certification can be based on present, good faith knowledge about when information became known without a search of files being made." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).
- Note: "Although it is recognized that an individual actually becomes aware of the information in the communication from a foreign patent office sometime after it was mailed, the mailing date of such a communication, if it occurs prior to a first awareness of the same information, would determine the date for filing of an information disclosure statement without a fee" in a certification procedure under § 1.97(e). Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 19.
- Note: "The certification under § 1.97(e) should be made by a person who has knowledge of the facts being certified. The certification can be made by a practitioner who represents a foreign client and who relies on statements made by the foreign client as to the date the information first became known. A practitioner who receives information from a client without being informed whether the information was known for more than three months, however, cannot make the certification without making reasonable inquiry." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25 at 19.
- Note: "The term counterpart foreign patent application means that a claim for priority has been made in either the U.S. application or a foreign application based on the other, or that the disclosures of the U.S. and foreign patent applications are substantively identical (e.g., an application filed in the European Patent Office claiming the same U.K. priority as claimed in the U.S. application)." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).
- Note: "Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent or inventor." 37 CFR 1.56(d) and
- "Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
- (1) each inventor named in the application;
 - (2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
 - (3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 CFR 1.56(c).

IDENTIFICATION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR WHICH THIS CERTIFICATION IS BEING MADE

1. This certification is being made for the Information Disclosure Statement filed July 6, 2001.

CERTIFICATION

2. I, the person(s) signing below certify that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

Note:

"The time at which information 'was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c)' is the time when the information was discovered in association with the application even if awareness of the materiality came later." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 40).

IDENTIFICATION OF PERSON(S) MAKING THIS CERTIFICATION

3. The person making this certification is the attorney who signs below on the basis of information supplied by the inventor(s), by an individual designated in § 1.56(c) and in the attorney's file.

Note:

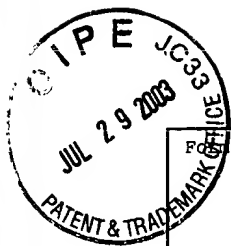
"Certification need not be in the form of an oath or a declaration under 37 CFR 1.68. Certification by a registered practitioner or any other individual that the statement was filed within the three-month period or either first citation by a foreign patent office or first discovery of the information will be accepted as dispositive of compliance with this provision in the absence of evidence to the contrary."... A statement on information and belief would not be sufficient." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39-40).


SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION				APPLICANT James M. Thommes			
				FILING DATE April 6, 2001		GROUP 2182	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAM. INIT.	REF	PATENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
		4,564,742	1/14/86	Karlsson			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAM INIT	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pages, Etc.)							
		<div>RECEIVED</div> <div>JUL 31 2003</div> <div>Technology Center 2100</div>					
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED				
EXAMINER: Initial if citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

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July 23, 2003
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